

REMARKS

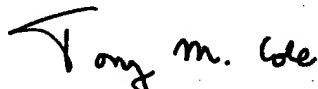
In the Office Action, dated August 10, 2005, the Examiner rejected claims 1-4, 9 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,798,743 (hereinafter "MA") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,751,194 (hereinafter "UENO"). Applicants note with appreciation the Examiner's allowance of claims 14-20, and the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 5-8 and 11-13. By way of this amendment, Applicants have amended claims 1, 9 and 11 to improve form. Reconsideration of the outstanding rejections is respectfully requested in view of the amendments above and the following remarks.

In paragraph 3, the Office Action rejects claims 1-4, 9 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over MA in view of UENO. Applicants have amended claim 1 to substantially recite the subject matter of claims 5 and 6, which the Examiner has indicated as being allowable. Applicants have further amended claim 9 to include the subject matter of claim 11, which the Examiner has also indicated as being allowable. In view of these amendments, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1 and 9 should now be in condition for allowance. Claims 2-4 and 10, which depend from claims 1 and 9, respectively, should also be in condition for allowance. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-4, 9 and 10 is, therefore, respectfully requested.

U.S. Patent Application No. 09/816,333
Attorney's Docket No. F0691

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner's reconsideration of this application, and the timely allowance of the pending claims. To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR § 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-1070 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,



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